

**SEPTIC TANK PUMPERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2007 MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Byrnes called the Septic Tank Pumpers Advisory Committee meeting to order on January 19, 2007 at 11:05 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Byrnes, Superior Septic Service;
Wade Stout, Badger Pass Septic Service;
John Clark, Scenic City Enterprises;
Don Heimbigner, Don's Septic Service;
Jamie Hillman, Jims Backhoe & Septic System;
Conrad Eckert, Eckert's Services;
Steve Kunkle, Montana Septic Service;
Barbara Woodbury, Sanders County Sanitarian;
Renai Hill, Montana DEQ.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jeny Bennett, JMF Services;
C. Eckert, Eckert's Services;
Fred Bjorklund, Fred's Septic Pumping;
Leonard Hunter, Southwest Septic & Sewer;
Nancy Stout, Badger Pass Septic Service;
Kenneth Wheeler, Ken Wheeler Septic Pumping.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 1, 2006 MEETING

Mike Byrnes asked for any changes to the draft minutes. There were no comments or edits from the committee. A motion to approve the December 1, 2006 minutes was made and seconded. The motion carried and the December 1, 2006 minutes were approved as written.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Currently licensed pumpers

A list of the currently licensed pumpers was handed out and discussed by those present. A list of current pumpers is now provided on the Septic PumperWeb page.

2. Statement for graywater

The Chairman, Mike Byrnes began discussing the definition of graywater and that graywater should be treated as blackwater. He also stated that the DEQ Circular 4 states that graywater systems must be designed the same as a blackwater system. He also read the first paragraph from the document, "Solid Waste Missoula," which states in part, "for health and safety reasons Allied Waste does not accept untreated sewage. Sewage is liquid waste produced by humans from either a household or industrial facility. Untreated sewage includes materials such as wash water, feces, urine or other liquids, or semisolid waste that have not gone through physical, chemical, or biological treatment prior to disposal. Materials upstream of a wastewater treatment plant or septic tank, in

pipes or some other conveyance would be considered untreated and are not acceptable for disposal without treatment. Dan Heimbigner also had documents from the Liberty County Sanitation with the signatures of the three commissioners which he gave to Rick Thompson. His documents state basically that there is no such thing as graywater, if you have a little mess on your body or urinate in the water (shower/bath) it becomes blackwater. Conrad Eckert also provided documents to Rick Thompson supporting the issue. Graywater is blackwater. The change can be made at the rule level.

The main problem comes from out-of-state firms pumping "graywater" for the Forest Service during fire season. Barbara Woodbury discussed the old graywater systems that have been installed in Sanders County that are not legal. She had the committee reaffirm exactly what is considered graywater at this time and how it was being handled. She did state that food people should know better because food people with mobile units are required to have a wastewater holding tank properly dispose of the wastewater. The group also discussed travel trailers etc dumping on the ground at Wal-Mart and other areas where dogs and people are walking through the waste.

The Chairman stated that the definition/term graywater should be changed to that of blackwater. The definition should reflect that of Circular 4 and be treated as such in the pumper rules. He requested comments from the group again on the issue. A discussion by committee members and other pumpers/guest present began. They also discussed cost of hauling graywater verses blackwater for their customers. Also the statement was made that we need to take a good long look at the rule changes that they want to make and ensure that they are not going to be a hindrance somewhere down the line. The rule review process was also discussed.

A motion was made and seconded to request a change to the pumper rules changing the term graywater. Graywater shall be determined as blackwater and treated as such. The motion carried and was approved by the committee with only one member opposing the motion.

3. Statement and checklist for vehicle inspections.

Discussed and tabled until next meeting. If anyone has comments or concerns let one of the representatives from your area or Renai Hill know.

4. Statement for business name and STP license number on all pumper vehicles.

Discussed and tabled until next meeting. If anyone has comments or concerns let one of the representatives from your area or Renai Hill know.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Confirm next meeting date

The next meeting will be held on April 6, 2007 in Room 111 of the Metcalf Building from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

2. Agenda items for next meeting

Graywater term/definition status

Statement and checklist for vehicle inspections.

Statement for business name and STP license number on all pumper vehicles.

Mike Byrnes adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.